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The Parthenon, February 6, 2018

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Marshall celebrates annual Soul Food Feast

The Carter G. Woodson Soul Food Feast kicks off Black History Month on campus.



Former State Senator Marie Redd laughs with diners at the Annual Soul Food Feast Sunday in the Don Morris Room at the Memorial Student Center.

By OLAYINKA BAMIRO
THE PARTHENON

The Carter G. Woodson Annual Soul Food Feast made its return this past Sunday in celebration of Black History Month.

Marshall students, faculty and members of the community came together to enjoy African American dishes such as fried chicken, mac and cheese and collard greens. The event not only had people who regularly eat soul food, but also allowed those who do not indulge as much in this type of cuisine to try something new.

"I grew up in a household that had all African food, so I've never had soul food before," said Jacqueline Brown, a freshman who grew up in a Ghanaian family. "The atmosphere is why I came. I could've just went to Harless, but where else can you go to have the experience of a soul food feast?"

said Dr. Alan B. Gould who has served as Marshall's interim president, dean of the College of Liberal

You can find other photos from the Carter G. Woodson Soul Food Feast at www.marshallparthenon.com. Full details on events during Black History Month can be found at www.marshall.edu/blackhistorymonth/.

Arts, and is now retired.

"To break bread with somebody is informal, so you learn more about people," said Alan B. Gould, former interim president and den of the College of Liberal Arts. "The food is what I'm used to anyway, and over the years, I've met a lot of fine people that I normally would never have met, so I've always enjoyed it."

Along with the food and social interaction, the Soul Food Feast also informed attendees about upcoming events being offered throughout Black History Month, such as the Rev. Matthew Watts' "Next Steps" following the State of African Americans in West Virginia Summit, a Frederick Douglass speech reenactment of "What to a Slave is the 4th of July" and a presentation by Carla Hayden, the 14th librarian of Congress and the first African-American and first woman appointed to this position.

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Marshall Board of Governors facing federal lawsuit

By SARAH INGRAM
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's Board of Governors is now facing a federal lawsuit from a former Marshall student who claims the university did not uphold Title IX standards when it allowed a student who attacked her to remain on campus. Filed Jan. 31, the lawsuit details how the student claims she was raped, harassed and discriminated against because of her gender.

Marshall employees have yet to make a formal statement addressing the allegations.

The Marshall student was attacked in her dorm Feb. 1, 2016 by another student. After reaching out to close friends and going to the hospital, the student filed a formal complaint with Marshall University Police Department and the director of student conduct. She also decided to take the case to criminal court.

The victim claimed that her attacker was permitted to remain on campus during his investigation. She also claims that despite having an order of protection against the attacker, there were no precautions made to ensure the two remained separated.

After the director of student conduct determined that the

student in question should be expelled, he appealed the decision. This appeal meant going in front of a student conduct panel. The attacker repeatedly rescheduled the dates of this meeting and was allowed to stay on campus during the process despite the victim reporting she felt threatened by her attacker's presence.

According to the victim, the student conduct panel had many infractions. These issues included not providing counsel to the

The lawsuit against Marshall's Board of Governors claims that the board violated Title IX and its Dear Colleague Letter which identifies requirements that institutions must follow regarding to student-on-student sexual harassment, assault and violence.

victim, not recording the procedure, not allowing the victim to hear the panel's decision or explanation of why the attacker could remain on campus and more.

Shortly after the decision to allow the accused student to stay on campus, Marshall University's Interim Dean Carla Lapelle

recommended to President Jerry Gilbert the student be suspended until his criminal case was decided.

The accused appealed the school's decision, but he was ultimately denied in August 2017. He was suspended from Marshall's campus but was informed he was permitted to take online classes through the school.

After pleading guilty to misdemeanor battery Jan. 11, 2017, the attacker asked Marshall to reconsider his reinstatement. The school then decided to reinstate the him in March of 2017 even though he had violated the school's code of conduct. The school claimed the reasons behind this decision were because the attacker needed courses that were only offered on campus, and the victim was no longer a student.

The lawsuit against Marshall's Board of Governors claims that the board violated Title IX and its Dear Colleague Letter which identifies requirements that institutions must follow regarding to student-on-student sexual harassment, assault and violence.

Parthenon reporters will be following the case as it develops.

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Marshall Rec Center Celebrates 9 Years

By KYRA BISCARNER
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University Rec Center is proudly celebrating it's ninth year. Monday afternoon, the rec center had a raffle all day where entrants could win things like a free year membership along with free passes for premium classes. All classes at the rec center and entry were also free for members and non-members alike.

Associate Director Michele Muth said she thought the event would help both members and employees to celebrate.

"We opened our doors nine years ago on Feb. 5, 2009," Muth said. "We are having a raffle today, all of our classes are free, all entry is free so no guest passes. All the employees are coming out, we are celebrating, it's kind of bittersweet to have been here so long."

Member and guest coordinator Kirsten Whittemore said she also hopes the event

helps to celebrate members and non-members alike.

"It's important for us, being in the Marshall community, to celebrate not only our members and our students, but for any non-members, it's a great time to celebrate what we're doing here," Whittemore said.

Muth also said she hoped the event helped students to see the resource they have in the Rec Center on campus.

"If students are going to class, if they're stressed out, they need a way to release that stress, and we want to be there for them and give them a place for them to come to together," Muth

said. "We want to give them a place to be with other students, make new friends, participate in activities they never would have participated in, that's what's really important to us."

Muth said this event helped the Marshall Rec Center to highlight some of their new classes and facilities.

"We have a bunch of brand new classes students have never been able to participate in before," Muth said. "We have a new F45 class, and we are only the tenth university to have access to this class."

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MU Film Club will present ‘Green Globe’ awards to student work in film festival

By **AMANDA LARCH**
THE PARTHENON

The MU Film Club will present The Green Globes, a short film festival with an awards ceremony at 7 p.m. April 21 on Commons’ Field for and by Marshall University students.

The club is now taking short film and music video submissions via Dropbox, and the deadline to submit is April 1. Marshall students must be involved with the creation, production or performance of the film they submit and can submit up to two films, but their submissions cannot be longer than 25 minutes singular or combined. Marshall students only will be eligible for awards as well.

The film club is accepting submissions of short narrative films, documentaries and music videos. They will be awarding 17 students for their work, with such categories as best film, best actor, best cinematography, best director and best production design.

Chase Jarrell, vice president of MU Film Club, said that he hopes their film festival will be different because of the awards aspect and their inclusion of music videos.

“Music videos aren’t really seen in short film festivals, and there’s a very large community of students here who not only make music, but make music videos,” Jarrell, junior secondary education major, said. “They don’t really have a medium to promote their music videos. This is going to be a great opportunity for students to not only put themselves out there but have a resume, because when you win an award, you have that to say it happened.”

Last semester, the MU Film Club created their own short film called “Pure.” Now, they are working on another short film titled “Licorice,” a docudrama based on the 2014 Charleston, West Virginia chemical spill. Jarrell said it is a more dramatic retelling of the actual events that occurred, but it is not a strict documentary.

“With a documentary, we could be as realistic as possible, but that’s not really the point of our club,” Jarrell said. “While we do support documentary filmmaking, the current members are more for the entertainment side.”

Similar to their first short film, MU Film Club members are responsible for the writing, directing, acting and production of “Licorice.”

They screened “Pure” last semester to an audience of about 70 Marshall students, and they are going to screen their newest film sometime this semester as well once it is finished.

Jason Lambert, president of the MU Film Club, recreated the group last year, because the original group members had graduated. He contacted the advisor, Walter Squire, and asked if he could revamp the organization and recruit new members.

“I came here fall 2016, and I’ve always liked movies, so I thought when I get to college, I’ll broaden my horizons; I’ll find people who like movies as much as I do,” Lambert said. “It’s changed a lot since then, but that was the inspiration, like a ‘Why not?’ If no one’s going to do it, then I will.”

One thing the MU Film Club stresses is they want to differentiate from the film studies program at Marshall. The film studies program also sponsors a short film festival, but Jarrell and Lambert said they hope theirs will be different.

“We wanted to give a chance to show what students around here have made separately from just the film studies program,” Lambert said. “We want to give awards away too to filmmakers, especially smaller filmmakers, because there’s a reward in getting rewarded for what you do.”

The MU Film Club also welcomes anyone, Jarrell said.

“We’re not just a bunch of people sitting around saying, ‘Hey, we like movies,’” Jarrell said. “A lot of us, myself and the president included, we’re not film minors, we’re not video production majors. We do have members that are video production majors, but most of our executives and most of our members still are just people interested in the art of the film, as a hobby or a general interest.”

The MU Film Club meets at 7 p.m. every Monday and Thursday in Harris Hall Room 102.

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Night to Shine event to offer people with special needs a prom night experience

By **GINNY BLAKE**
THE PARTHENON

The Church at Depot will be hosting a prom for people with special needs this Friday.

People with special needs will be able to experience prom Friday at 6 p.m. as part of a Night to Shine at Church at the Depot.

Night to Shine, a prom night experience for people with special needs, is sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation. Church at the Depot is one of over 540 churches participating in Night to Shine from around the world coming together to put on the prom for 90,000 guests, according to the Tim Tebow Foundation.

Night to Shine is described by the foundation as “an unforgettable prom night experience, centered on God’s love, for people with special needs ages fourteen and older.” The event is a complimentary experience and comes at no cost to the child or their family.

At Church at the Depot’s Night to Shine, they are then paired with a “buddy” for the evening, Matt Davis, staff pastor, said. Guests then get pampered, including hair and makeup, shoe shining, corsages and boutonnières, dinner and dancing. Each guest also gets a ride in a limousine.

Then, upon entering the building, each guest gets a personal introduction while walking on the red carpet. They also receive a crown/tiara and each guest is crowned king or queen of the prom.

“Our guests love dancing the night away and being celebrated with the balloon drop towards the end of the night,” Davis said.

The church’s first Night to Shine occurred in 2015, which included 75 guests. Three years later, the guest list has grown by 90. Over 250+ volunteers are registered to assist with the event.

“We anticipate the number of guests going up a little bit more as Friday approaches,” Davis said. “In addition to the number of participants growing, we believe the heart of our event has grown in those that participate each year as people from all over our area come together to show love, express dignity and give value to our guests and their families.”

Those interested in registering a guest for the event can do so at <http://www.churchatthedepot.com/night-to-shine/>.

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Community outreach center serves children, families of Huntington



HANNA PENNINGTON | THE PARTHENON

The Ebenezer Outreach Community Center has served the Huntington area for since 1984 after stemming from the United Methodist Church as a state-funded facility. The center aims to help the community with childcare and afterschool programs as well as addressing local social issues such as literacy and racism.

By **HANNA PENNINGTON**
THE PARTHENON

The Ebenezer Community Outreach Center, Inc. has been specializing in childcare and family needs in the Huntington community since 1984, when it stemmed from the United Methodist Church as a state-funded facility.

Executive Director Celes L. Sheffield said ECOC’s main goal is to give back to the community and teach children to do the same.

“Pretty much everything we do is free for the community,” Sheffield said.

The center provides childcare, an after-school program, a baby bassinet program, school supply program, free clothing closet and a family enrichment center. Those at the center also work to address local issues of literacy, racism, and economics.

However, Sheffield said she would like to do even more for the community.

“I’d like to maybe do a computer lab, but we can’t do that right now,” Sheffield said. “That’s one of my goals.”

Sheffield said volunteer work is always welcome, and anyone who wants to share a special skill or activity with the children can do so at any time.

“Money is always good, but time is better,” Sheffield said. “Warm bodies for kids, people to come and interact with them, new faces to show the kids that there’s somebody out there that cares about them.”

Sheffield said volunteers are needed to help during field trips with the children by chaperoning.

Administrative Assistant Sheryl Bacon has worked at ECOC for 12 years and said she

strongly recommends coming and interacting with the kids.

“Each child has their own little personality,” Bacon said.

Sheffield said it is important to invest time in working with the children now, so they can be successful later in life.

“This is our future,” Sheffield said. “If we don’t take the time to invest in our future now, then we can’t complain later.”

Sheffield said ECOC strives to teach kids at an early age the value of getting a quality education and staying in school.

“We want to see them graduate, of course,” Sheffield said. “Any of them that want to go on to higher education, that’s great. We just want them to be positive role models for their community and give back to their community that they grew up in.”

Sheffield said she hopes the children at ECOC grow up to be productive citizens.

“I’ve got kids in college now that have basketball and athletic scholarships,” Sheffield said. “I have some that are parents now, so that’s rewarding. I just want to see them succeed in life and be positive role models.”

Sheffield said she hopes to one day add on to the building, which now houses over 60 children every day, and to expand their resources, possibly adding 21st-century classrooms.

“Just to know we’ve been a positive force in their life, that’s rewarding,” Sheffield said.

ECOC is open 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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West Virginia governor takes new approach to opioid epidemic

By **JOHN RABY**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

West Virginia will take a different approach to an opioid epidemic that is “eating us alive” with stepped-up efforts focusing on two of the state’s 55 counties, Gov. Jim Justice said Monday.

Justice told a news conference that West Virginia didn’t have enough funding to fight the epidemic in all 55 counties. Although statewide efforts will continue, the state will team with West Virginia University to assemble a plan that works.

“We know that everything that we’ve done thus far has failed,” said Justice, a Republican who took office in January 2017. “This problem’s been going on for years. I inherited this problem, and it’s there and just seems to get worse.”

West Virginia had the nation’s highest drug overdose death rate in 2016 at 52 per 100,000 residents, up from 41.5 in 2015.

The governor said the state plans to spend at least \$10 million to create a model that will be tested in the two counties still to be determined. One county will be in the southern part of the state; Justice said he prefers Wyoming County. The other will be either in the north or in the Eastern Panhandle.

No resources will be taken from other counties, and Justice emphasized that no county will be ignored. He wants the initial phase completed in months, not years.

“I need to solve the problem,” Justice said. “And the problem is eating us alive, and we’ve got to stop it. We’ve got to come up with the perfect model and let it spread.”

To help lead the efforts, Justice named Dr. Michael Brumage as the new director of the state Office of Drug Control Policy. Brumage is assistant dean for public health practice and service at West Virginia University’s School of Medicine and the executive director of the Kanawha-Charleston Health Department.

Brumage replaces Jim Johnson, who held the job just five months until his retirement in January.

Justice announced efforts to fight the opioid crisis last year, and the Legislature passed a bill requiring inpatient drug treatment beds increased in existing or new facilities.

Although there have been stepped-up efforts in recent years by law enforcement to catch and punish opioid dealers, the state’s dilemma goes far beyond those using drugs. For instance, 83 percent of children in foster care are there because of the drug problem, said Bill Crouch, Cabinet secretary of the Department of Health and Human Resources.

Justice said he wants to “solve the riddle” to the drug crisis that sets an example for the rest of the country.

“We know that it takes way more than an aspirin and a Band-Aid to fix this problem,” he said.



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Softball legend inspires Herd before season

By **LUKE CREASY**
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University softball celebrated its 25th year as a program at its 7th Annual Diamond Club Banquet Friday, while also introducing new players and staff.

Those in attendance were introduced to 10 newcomers to the team, nine freshmen and one transfer, as well as a new coaching staff after former head coach Shonda Stanton took the same position at Indiana University after 18 years with the Thundering Herd.

Marshall senior infielder Elicia D’Orazio said that change has long been a part of her athletic career, and this upcoming season is no different.

“Personally, change is always something I’ve had to go through,” D’Orazio said. “I went to four different high schools, so I got that change every year. It’s really cool to be at a university for four years and learn from eight different personalities. We had three coaches (last year) and five coaches this year. They have totally different teaching methods, so it’s definitely benefitted us.”

First-year head coach Jen Steele brought in a softball legend as the event’s keynote speaker, three-time reigning National Pro Fastpitch Most Valuable Player Kelly Kretschman.

Kretschman is one of the most decorated athletes to ever play the game. She guided Team USA Softball to an Olympic gold medal in the 2004 games in Athens, Greece, followed by Olympic silver in the 2008 Beijing games, among a handful of other career accomplishments in her 13 years in the NPF.

She spoke to both the team and the community while addressing the turnover the program

experienced in the offseason.

“There’s a different coaching staff, so what?” Kretschman said in a speech given at the banquet. “You guys, as players, have established a culture here. As a community, you’ve established your own culture. You know what success looks like. You have the blueprint for it. I know what Marshall softball looks like from the outside. It’s a player that is going to bust her butt every single play. That’s what makes you Marshall softball.”

Kretschman was able to spend time with the team before and after the banquet, as she attended Sunday practice. D’Orazio said it was a surreal experience.

“She’s a really inspirational person, someone that I grew up watching play,” D’Orazio said. “Just getting to be in the same room with her is cool.”

Steele said she thinks Kretschman’s wisdom will ease some start-of-season jitters as the team prepares for No. 13 Auburn this Thursday.

“She’s had a really long career, and she’s learned a lot throughout that career,” Steele said. “I’m hoping that our athletes can pick up on some of that wisdom, because I think they put a lot of pressure on themselves to be great in four years, but the game is hard. It takes a long time to get good at it, so hopefully they can relax a little bit and see her progression throughout the years. We’re thankful to have her here.”

The offseason is complete for Marshall softball as it’s officially game week. The Herd will attempt to build on last year’s best season in program history as it opens the 25th season Thursday at the Auburn Plainsman Invitational.

Luke Creasy can be contacted at creasy4@marshall.edu.



LUKE CREASY | THE PARTHENON

Marshall’s 2018 softball team poses for a photo with three-time National Pro Fastpitch Most Valuable Player Kelly Kretschman at the Herd’s annual Diamond Club Banquet Saturday evening. Marshall went 42-12 in 2017, won the Conference USA regular season title and reached the NCAA tournament by virtue of an at-large bid.

PLAINSMAN INVITATIONAL SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, 6:30 P.M.

FRIDAY, 1 P.M.

FRIDAY, 6:30 P.M.

SATURDAY, 10 A.M.

SATURDAY, 12:30 P.M.

King, Golden Eagles outlast Herd women’s basketball in Hattiesburg

By **COURTNEY ANDREWS**
THE PARTHENON

Southern Miss women’s basketball was too much for Marshall women’s basketball Sunday as the Golden Eagles downed the Herd, 70-61.

With the loss, the Herd dropped to 7-15 overall (1-8 C-USA) while the Golden Eagles improved to 13-9 (5-4 C-USA).

Golden Eagles’ redshirt senior guard Jayla King tallied a double-double with 15 points and 10 rebounds. She also recorded a team-high five assists and three blocks in the Southern Miss victory. Five other players had double-figures for the Golden Eagles. Sophomore guard Respect Leaphart and freshman guard Allie Kennedy had 12 points each, while sophomore forward Alarie Mayze and redshirt junior guard Megan Brown both had 10 points.

Junior guard Shayna Gore led the Herd on offense with 16

points, while graduate student forward Talequia Hamilton and freshman forward Taylor Pearson scored 10 points each. Hamilton had a career-high six assists, and Pearson grabbed a career-high eight rebounds.

“I thought Taylor Pearson had a good game today,” head coach Tony Kemper said. “She’s definitely getting better. She jetted into the post and made some plays for us.”

Marshall fought throughout the whole game and even trailed by one with 7:06 left in the game. Southern Miss would go on a 10-1 run over the next three minutes to outlast the Herd.

Marshall has a three-game home stand coming up, starting off with UTSA Thursday at 5 p.m. at the Cam Henderson Center.

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RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON

Talequia Hamilton fends off an opposing player in Marshall’s recent home game against FIU Jan. 28.

Marshall men’s basketball secures first win in El Paso

By **COURTNEY ANDREWS**
THE PARTHENON

Marshall men’s basketball outlasted UTEP Saturday evening in the Herd’s first-ever victory in El Paso, Texas, 74-65.

Not only did the Herd walk away with the win, but junior guard C.J. Burks reached 1,000 career points during the game. He finished with 16 points, while junior guard Jon Elmore led the team with 22 points, seven rebounds and five assists. Junior forward Ajdin Penava had 15 points and seven rebounds.

“We had a lot more energy tonight,” head coach Dan D’Antoni said. “We didn’t execute really well or shoot well, but we had the energy to be a winner. We lacked that the other night. The kids listened to my complaints about the last game and improved. It’s a good road win.”

UTEP freshman guard Evan Gilyard scored a team-high 20 points and was the lone Miner to reach double-digits.

Marshall led for most of the game and never gave up the lead after Burks drained a 3-pointer with 12:06 left in the first.

The Miners made a run at the beginning of the second half to bring the game within three, and later made it a two-point game when Gilyard hit a three, but the Herd held strong.

Marshall led going into the half 34-24, which was the fewest points Marshall allowed going into half all season.

The Herd contained the Miners to 34.5 percent (10-for-29) shooting from the field and 16.7 percent (2-for-16) from behind the arc. Marshall shot 42.4 percent (25-for-59) from the field and 28.6 percent (10-for-35) from behind the arc.

Marshall is now 15-8 (6-4 C-USA) and is tied for fourth in the conference.

The Herd is home this coming week when it takes on FIU (11-13, 5-6 C-USA) Thursday at 8 p.m. and FAU (10-13, 4-7 C-USA) Saturday at 7 p.m. in the Cam Henderson Center.

Courtney Andrews can be contacted at andrews46@marshall.edu.



RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON

Head coach Dan D’Antoni has his squad sitting in a tie for fourth place in Conference USA through the first 10 league games. D’Antoni guided Marshall to its first-ever win over UTEP in El Paso, Texas Saturday.

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Editorial

The Market is a symbol of Huntington progress



The Market, the new open-space retail market featuring at least seven tenenats, is set to open soon in downtown Huntington.

LILLY DYER

There is no doubt that Huntington has problems. Nobody disagrees with that fact. But what city doesn't? There is an opioid epidemic crippling our city and exhausting our law enforcement. The Huntington area has struggled for years to keep and create business. But one thing is also for sure—downtown is completely different from ten years ago, even five years ago. Downtown Huntington is starting to feel the way it should feel. It is thriving and growing, and there is an energy that pulses through its sidewalks. And in the center of all of this, in the heart of our city, sits downtown's newest development: The Market.

A little over two years ago, downtown developers Phil Nelson and Jim Weiler began their \$7 million renovation project of four buildings on the 800 block of third avenue. Most of the space occupied in these buildings has been transformed into business offices—a real hub of local business. But right in

the center of it all sits the market, which will house at least seven local retail businesses, including several restaurants, a grocery store and a craft beer and wine store. The Market will also have an outdoor area for dining and resting, complete with murals, games and even a fire pit.

"After purchasing the four buildings over two years ago," wrote The Herald-Dispatch's Fred Pace, "Nelson and Weiler have nearly completed the transformation of a once-vacant street corner into one of the downtown area's liveliest blocks."

At the mention of this new market, peoples' eyes light up. Downtown buzzes with wonder. This space is so much more than some retail location—it's a symbol of hope and restoration, a hope that Huntington locals have longed for. With the merging of artisans and entrepreneurship, dining and diversity, The Market is a reflection of our city's

emerging values. This market encompasses what our city has wanted for so long, and now it sits right on the sidewalk of third avenue as a beacon of hope. Although the nightly news seems bleak, good things are also happening, and darkness cannot hinder the light forever.

While development is underway downtown, it is more important than ever for Marshall students to leave the confines of their campus, to sign out of their dorm rooms and to participate and enjoy and help to shape the forming culture of the city. It is time to engage the community and contribute to the revitalization and economic development. Enjoy a local cup of coffee, a local slice of pizza and maybe even buy a local birthday present. Our dollars are our most powerful votes. Where we put our money will determine so much of the direction that the city takes as it progresses into a new era.

CHAPTER 1: Unbroken Strings

By JUNE RICHARDSON
FOR THE PARTHENON

Blythe Anderson sat in the wooden chair, legs crossed, chin resting in hand. She gazed out the window of the small, stuffy coffee shop, watching the unending stream of cars making their ways along the paved road, the people hurriedly crossing the streets, entering and exiting shops and businesses. Her coffee in the mug before her had long gone cold, and the book she'd brought remained unopened.

It occurred to Blythe that everyone she saw had a destination they were hurrying to. Every impatient driver, every well-dressed man and woman, briefcase in hand, shopper and client. They all had a place to be.

She cast her gaze about the small and warm cafe, taking note of the busy barista and hard-working students, the enamored couple in the far back corner and the quiet

old man reading his paper, who continued to soil his graying mustache with each sip of coffee. It seemed to Blythe that wherever she lay her eyes, she saw business, preoccupation, purpose. But where did all of this come from? Surely there was a source, something that propelled the people around her forward. Yes, obligation is a given, Blythe thought to herself. But why should one feel obligated to follow a path only visible from one's own mind? A word appeared from her mind's periphery.

Strings.

The cars, the pedestrians, the shoppers and business people, the students, the lovers and the mustached man who clearly wished for a straw. They were all being pulled by strings invisible to the obvious eye, but clearly felt by all those they affected.

Blythe's inability to control the actions of others in her life caused

her to take comfort in the freedom of her own decisions, her own path. And yet, she realized she felt the pull of these strings. She knew the compulsion of responsibility, the explanations that at first glance appear to be concrete, but upon further inspection dissipate into nothing. They leave in their wake a heavy question that demands an elusive answer: why?

Yes, Blythe knew what strings felt like in her life. But, she wondered to herself, what would it feel like to break them?

The sound of a distant bell tower awoke Blythe from her reverie. She glanced at her wristwatch and hurriedly stuffed the book into her tired messenger bag, leaving her forgotten coffee on the table. Blythe was late for work.

This is the first chapter of a fictional story written under the name June Richardson



GRAPHIC BY SADIE HELMICK



SETH PAYNE | THE PARTHENON

THE PARTHENON

The Parthenon, Marshall University's student newspaper, is published by students Monday through Friday during the regular semester and Thursday during the summer. The editorial staff is responsible for news and editorial content.

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THE PARTHENON'S CORRECTIONS POLICY

"Factual errors appearing in The Parthenon should be reported to the editor immediately following publication. Corrections the editor deems necessary will be printed as soon as possible following the error."

THE FIRST AMENDMENT | The Constitution of the United States of America

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people to peaceably assemble; and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

By OLGA R. RODRIGUEZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Then-Mayor Ed Lee called for a federal review of the San Francisco Police Department in 2016, after officers exchanged racist

The shooting of Woods, a black man suspected in a stabbing, was caught on video and sparked protests that led to the resigna-



The DOJ found that San Francisco police used force against blacks more often than other racial groups and also stopped

"not about pursuing liberty and justice for all, but only privilege and opportunity and power for certain people who happen to not look like me."

"The regulation's mandate that states use a standard approach to identify large racial and ethnic disparities is designed to increase transparency, and allow communities to quickly identify states choosing to allow large disparities to continue," Harper said.

page designed and edited by TOM JENKINS | jenkins194@marshall.edu

MARSHALL ARTIST SERIES

Croman is no stranger to ‘Chicago’

By **RACHAEL COOK**
THE PARTHENON

Roxie Hart was a dream role for Dylis Croman since she first watched “Chicago” as a teenager. The first time Croman watched “Chicago” she met Ann Reinking, who played Roxie Hart in 1977 and won the Tony Award for best choreography. “I saw Chicago when I was fourteen,” Croman said. “When I met Ann Reinking, I knew that Roxie was someone I had to play.” At the time, Croman had been a dancer working in a ballet company. Croman said that dancing for a major ballet company was also one of her big dreams, and she had achieved that but after seeing “Chicago,” she knew that playing on Broadway was what she really wanted to do with her life. “It was hard work,” Croman said. “There were times when I didn’t get the parts that I really wanted, and I thought, well

maybe this part is where I’m really meant to be, but I kept working hard to get there anyway.” Croman said it can be exhausting at times but she is now playing her dream role and couldn’t be happier. She encourages others to never stop working hard in the industry, to go to all the auditions that they can and keep trying to reach the goals they have set. All her hard work paid off, she said, and she is completely in love with her life now and loves being able to play Roxie Hart. Croman has played in other Broadway shows such as “Sweet Charity” and “Fosse” but said that “Chicago” is unlike any other show that she has been in. She has been a member of the “Chicago” cast for over a decade now. “‘Chicago’ is special,” Croman said. “There are times when you’re doing other shows eight times a week, and you’re singing the same songs every night, and you get so bored of them, but

never with ‘Chicago.’” Croman said the score is the best part of being in “Chicago,” it’s one that never wears out. She said her favorite song from the score is “Nowadays,” the last song of the performance, because it shows Roxie at a point in the story where she is vulnerable and has had everything taken away from her, and it’s an emotional piece for her. “‘Chicago’ is a show for everyone,” Croman said. “If you don’t care for musicals or have never seen ‘Chicago,’ almost every time it will win you over.” Hearing the audience cheer for the cast is one of Croman’s favorite parts of performing, she said, and she always encourages audience members to clap and whistle as much as they want. “Chicago” will be performed 7 p.m. Feb. 12 at the Keith-Albee. **Rachael Cook can be contacted at turner250@marshall.edu.**

Artist Spotlight: winner of the Annual National Juried Exhibition James Murphy

By **MICHAELA CRITTENDEN**
THE PARTHENON

An artist can be a painter, a sculptor, maybe a poet, a photographer or a sketch artist. They come from around the country and across the globe. They depict a unique perspective on the world and portray varying messages. James Murphy, a 36-year-old artist from Ireland is no different. Murphy was the first creator from outside the country to have his art be juried into the Annual National Juried Exhibition at Marshall University. “It is an amazing privilege,” Murphy said. “I hadn’t known before the article came out, and I had been contacted, but I feel the university is a perfect setting to display my work.” Growing up, Murphy said he did not dream of becoming a doctor or lawyer. He said his only aspiration was good health, which he lacked. But he never let his illness stop him. “I find the things I’ve learned from being unwell offer me a lot of resilience and confidence,” Murphy said. “It’s only at this late age I hope to dream and maybe grow up too.” He said he began painting as a sort of therapy for his lifelong illness. What started as a therapeutic hobby, became a dream. “I have been an artist for about 10 years,”

Murphy said. “Though I was mainly self-taught, it gave me the impetus to follow into a fine arts school.” Murphy graduated from Crawford College of Fine Art and Design in 2015. After he graduated, he continued to work, and he displayed his work in any possible way while also attempting to expand his skills by trying something new. “I’m developing my art practice by trying to bring the video medium into an installation setting,” Murphy said. “It becomes more of an engaged experience for the viewer.” He was drawn to any medium that would allow him to convey his ideas. He said he was not concerned about what the piece would mean to him, not about the products used to create it. “By nature, I’m non-sentimental but more drawn to authenticity,” Murphy said. “I am not drawn to the history of the medium but the honesty of its utilization, because my artwork will always mean a lot to me personally, but not the medium used to convey.” Around 2016, some of his work was chosen for national awards. He entered in this exhibition for the opportunity to have his artwork displayed overseas. “As I got older, I felt that there was an

opportunity with the digital medium to submit my work in international competitions,” Murphy said. “Where traditional artists may have to ship physical pieces, my work could be viewed online alone.” Murphy’s work was displayed in Nebraska last year. He said it was another deciding factor for him to submit his work in the Juried Exhibition at Marshall. “Considering my goal to have my work gain as much exposure as possible and to a new audience, I felt the Juried Exhibition open call would be a great honor if I was lucky enough to be considered, let alone juried in,” Murphy said. Murphy said he constantly thought of new ideas and had to use art to express them and calm his head. “I’m a philosopher at heart,” Murphy said. “I am constantly looking for new, intriguing ways to translate my ideas.” The artist said he has always drawn inspiration from his surroundings. In his piece for the exhibition titled “Everyday,” he said he tried to reduce the world into basic components. “The inspiration for my work is one of perspective,” Murphy said. “In the video I attempt to reduce the world around to the simple, essential elements that I see every day and offer me mystery as the subtlety of movement.”

He said he wanted to portray the message of simplicity, the idea of slowing down to notice more. “‘Everyday’ attempts to deconstruct and slow down the noise of everyday,” Murphy said. “It doesn’t ask you to question yourself or your values but rather brings you closer to the value of those fundamental elements of daily life that may offer the base to present your own message.” “Everyday” has been displayed in the U.S., U.K, Ireland and Germany as well as South Korea. Murphy is working to make this piece into a short film. “I am working on pre-production on my first narrative short film that I hope to begin shooting in the coming months,” Murphy said. Murphy said he hopes to continue pursuing his passion, even without the large audience for his work. He said art hasn’t always been his dream, but it became just that, a dream he wanted to continue. “When the attention offered to my work in recent times stops, I will still be compelled to calm my mind with my art practice,” Murphy said. “However, it will be personal and have an audience of one.” **Michaela Crittenden can be contacted at crittenden2@marshall.edu.**

Grant provides opportunities to two art students

By **MICHAELA CRITTENDEN**
THE PARTHENON

The Undergraduate Creative Discovery and Undergraduate Research Scholar Awards provided juniors and seniors in the arts program funds for their various projects. The grant provided art students and faculty in the College of Arts and Media money for creative projects, a scholarship or funding for research in 2018 in a ceramics or painting concentration. Brian Pennington and Jessica Ashworth were the students chosen to receive the grant, while professors Ian Hagarty and Frederick Bartolovic were recognized as mentors. Pennington was mentored by Hagarty, and Ashworth was mentored by Bartolovic. “It felt amazing receiving this grant as an art student, as not many people receive this opportunity,” Pennington, fine arts major, said. Ashworth said she was excited about the possibility of a new project. “I was very excited to have received the award knowing that I was going to be creating something that I had never done before,” Ashworth, senior visual arts major, said. Hagarty was requested by Pennington to be a mentor, and he said he was happy to take on the responsibility. “He is an exceptional student who is highly motivated and independent,” Hargarty said. “So,

when he asked me to support his proposal, I agreed.” Hagarty said he hoped the students would gain some intellectual insight. “I hope that Bryan gains new experiences and insight into how to become more intellectually independent,” Hagarty said. “I hope that he is able to develop and articulate clear objectives and to achieve those objectives that he sets out to pursue and is able to create a distinct and personal body of artwork that is suitable for exhibition in a gallery.” “Faculty gain the opportunity to work closely with exceptional students to help them realize their personal creative research goals,” Hagarty said. Pennington said he believed the money would be beneficial to his education and experience as an artist. “I do believe this will improve my education, because it gives me valuable experience working independently that I can use in a classroom setting,” Pennington said. “I’m able to create strong independent work without worrying about the monetary aspect of the creative process.” The mentors also said they thought this opportunity was beneficial. “This experience supports undergraduate research and creative activities that might not be able to happen otherwise due to financial constraints on our students,” Hagarty said. **Michaela Crittenden can be contacted at crittenden2@marshall.edu.**

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